



Permanent Mission of the Federated States of Micronesia to the UN

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SIDS4 – Side event: SIDS Leadership in the Race to Ratification

**Remarks by H.E. Jeem S. Lippwe
Permanent Representative of the
Federated States of Micronesia to the UN
St. John's, 30 May 2024**

Moderator,

I would like to first thank the organizers of this event for the opportunity to say a few words. The Pacific has played an active role during the BBNJ process. The PSIDS established its positions earlier than most other negotiating groups, with many of those positions being particularly progressive. We engaged effectively, all the way until the treaty was finally adopted last year.

Pacific leadership did not end there. The FSM was the first country to sign the agreement in September last year. We are proud of our neighbor, Palau, for being the first to deposit its instrument of ratification. We wholeheartedly congratulate them.

Yesterday, at another side event, my staff was asked about the status of FSM's ratification. He responded to join us today in the morning to find out and I am pleased to reveal. FSM's instrument has been finalized and it has reached New York to be deposited next week. Out of 90 countries who have signed to date, Micronesia is expected to be the sixth to deposit its instrument of ratification. We do encourage all who have not done so to sign and ratify as early as possible.

The time for implementation is approaching. As Small Island Developing States we will need help from our partners, including assistance that is mandated under the BBNJ Agreement for finance, capacity building, and transfer of marine technology. Together we can ensure the conservation and sustainable use of our Ocean, both within and beyond national jurisdiction.

I thank you!